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East Germany

REPORT

Brandis Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 19 October 1954

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REFERENCES

2

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

1. The following observations were made at Brandis airfield between 14 and 21 September 1954:

14 September. About 0700, two Li-2s took off. At 0715 and 0718, 12 men each parachuted from these aircraft. Until about 0900, 72 parachute jumps were made from an altitude of about 600 meters. There was a 4/10 overcast.

15 September. Beginning 1010, the three Li-2s stationed at the field took off at intervals of 3 minutes for parachuting practices. Twelve men would again jump from each aircraft.

16 September. No flying was practiced. There was a closed ceiling and rain.

17 September. During the afternoon, a Li-2 made a local flight. No parachuting was practiced.

18 September. During the morning, some single-engine monoplanes were seen aloft over the field. No landings were made. Beginning at 1615, the three Li-2s took off at intervals of 3 minutes for parachuting practices. Until 1800, each Li-2 had taken off four times. The soldiers jumped over Trebsen and returned to the field from the barn southeast of Polenz by truck.

19 September. The three Li-2s took off once for parachuting practices. About 1810, one of the aircraft took off a second time. During the day 48 jumps were made. There was bad weather with intermittent rain showers and southwesterly wind of 4 to 6 meters per second. During the morning, 50 to 70 men were seen arranging and packing parachutes near the hangars.

20 September. No flying was practiced. The three Li-2s were parked in front of the hangars.

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21 September. Between 0600 and 0710, 72 parachute jumps were made over Trebsen.

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2. On 15 and 17 September, firing with rifles was practiced at the firing range. About 30 personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets fired standing and without support from a distance of 50 meters. On 17 September, 18 trucks with drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and loaded with ammunition of various calibers proceeded from Brandis in the direction of Altenhain.

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Railroad cars were repeatedly seen near the AA gun emplacement.

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1. Comment. Since 9 September 1954, three Li-2s from which parachuting is practiced have been stationed at Brandis airfield although the airfield is not presently occupied by a flying unit. The arranging and packing of parachutes observed on 19 September, indicates that the practices were made by a parachute unit. The present report gives no indications for the origin of the aircraft.

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2. Comment. An ammunition depot, and an ordnance depot, of the Eighth Gds Army are located at Altenhain.

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